

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1–14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (currently amended). A data switch for passing packets as sets of one or more packet flows between a plurality of ports, the data switch comprising:

a flow detection device configured to detect a set of one or more packet flows to which each packet belongs; and

a bandwidth monitoring device having a RAM memory with a section corresponding to each set of one or more packet flows, the memory sections each containing a bandwidth counter for the corresponding set of one or more packet flows, the bandwidth monitoring device being configured to:

subtract the size of the packet from a value of the bandwidth counter corresponding to the detected set of one more packet flows to obtain an adjusted value; and to

issue a policing instruction ~~according to the relationship of~~ if the adjusted value ~~with is equal to or lower than a first one or more predetermined levels corresponding to a first set of one or more flows and a second predetermined level, different from the first predetermined level, corresponding to a second set of one or more flows;~~

replace the value of the bandwidth counter corresponding to the detected set of one more packet flows by the adjusted value in the event that the packet is transmitted by the switch; and

replenish ~~the value stored in each~~ bandwidth counter with a predetermined value
at a regular intervals;

~~wherein the one or more predetermined levels include a first predetermined level
corresponding to a first set of one or more flows and a second predetermined level,
different from the first predetermined level, corresponding to a second set of one or more
flows; and~~

wherein the RAM memory includes control parameter indication portions for each
of the sets of one or more flows, the control parameter indication portions indicating
respective registers for storing the data representative of the one or more predetermined
levels.

Claims 16-19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (previously presented). The data switch according to claim 15 wherein the
plurality of sets of one or more flows are grouped into ranges, and wherein the policing
instructions in respect of a particular set of one or more flows depends upon the range in
which the set of one or more flows lies.

Claim 21 (previously presented). The data switch according to claim 15, wherein each
set of one or more flows is associated with one of a plurality of policing instructions, said
plurality of policing instructions including dropping a packet and reducing a priority
packet.

Claim 22 (currently amended). A method of policing flows of packets within a data
switch for passing packets between a plurality of ports, the method including:

storing a bandwidth counter for each of a plurality of sets of one or more flows in a RAM memory, the RAM memory having a corresponding section for each of the sets of one or more flows;

detecting the set of one or more flows to which a packet belongs;

subtracting the size of the packet from a value stored in the bandwidth counter corresponding to the set of one or more flows to obtain an adjusted value;

issuing a policing instruction ~~based on~~if the adjusted value ~~according to the position of the adjusted value with respect is equal to or lower than to a first predetermined level corresponding to a first set of one or more flows and a second predetermined level, different from the first predetermined level, corresponding to a second set of one or more flows;~~

if, despite any such policing instruction, the packet is transmitted, adjusting the value stored the bandwidth counter corresponding to the set of one or more flows by the size of the packet; and

replenishing ~~the value stored in each bandwidth counter~~ with a predetermined value at regular intervals;

~~wherein the predetermined levels include a first predetermined level corresponding to a first set of one or more flows and a second predetermined level, different from the first predetermined level, corresponding to a second set of one or more flows; and~~

wherein the RAM memory includes control parameter indication portions for each set of one or more flows, the control parameter indication portions indicating respective registers for storing the data representative of the predetermined levels.

Claims 23-25 (cancelled).

Claim 26 (previously presented). The method according to claim 22 wherein the sets of one or more flows are grouped into ranges, and wherein the policing instructions in respect of a particular set of one or more flows depends upon the range in which the set of one or more flows lies.

Claim 27 (previously presented). The data switch according to claim 22, wherein each set of one or more flows is associated with one of a plurality of policing instructions, said plurality of policing instructions including dropping a packet and reducing a priority packet.

Claim 28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (cancelled).

Drawings

The attached replacement sheet of drawing includes a change to Figure 1. In particular, labels with descriptive legends have been inserted in Figure 1.